Ownership Stamp Analyzation Project

百年印记

Fudan University Library Special Collections is a new department built in 2016. Over the last two years, we have been dedicating in sorting the collections we inherited. Besides the donations and purchase since 2016, we have in custody over 250 thousand of Antique or books. For many historical reasons, an amount of the provenance information of these books is either not well documented or lost. It is possible to recover most of them by adopting the methodology used for Chinese Art and Antique Book collecting by studying the stamps and signatures.

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http://www.kmf.ac.cn/p/182/
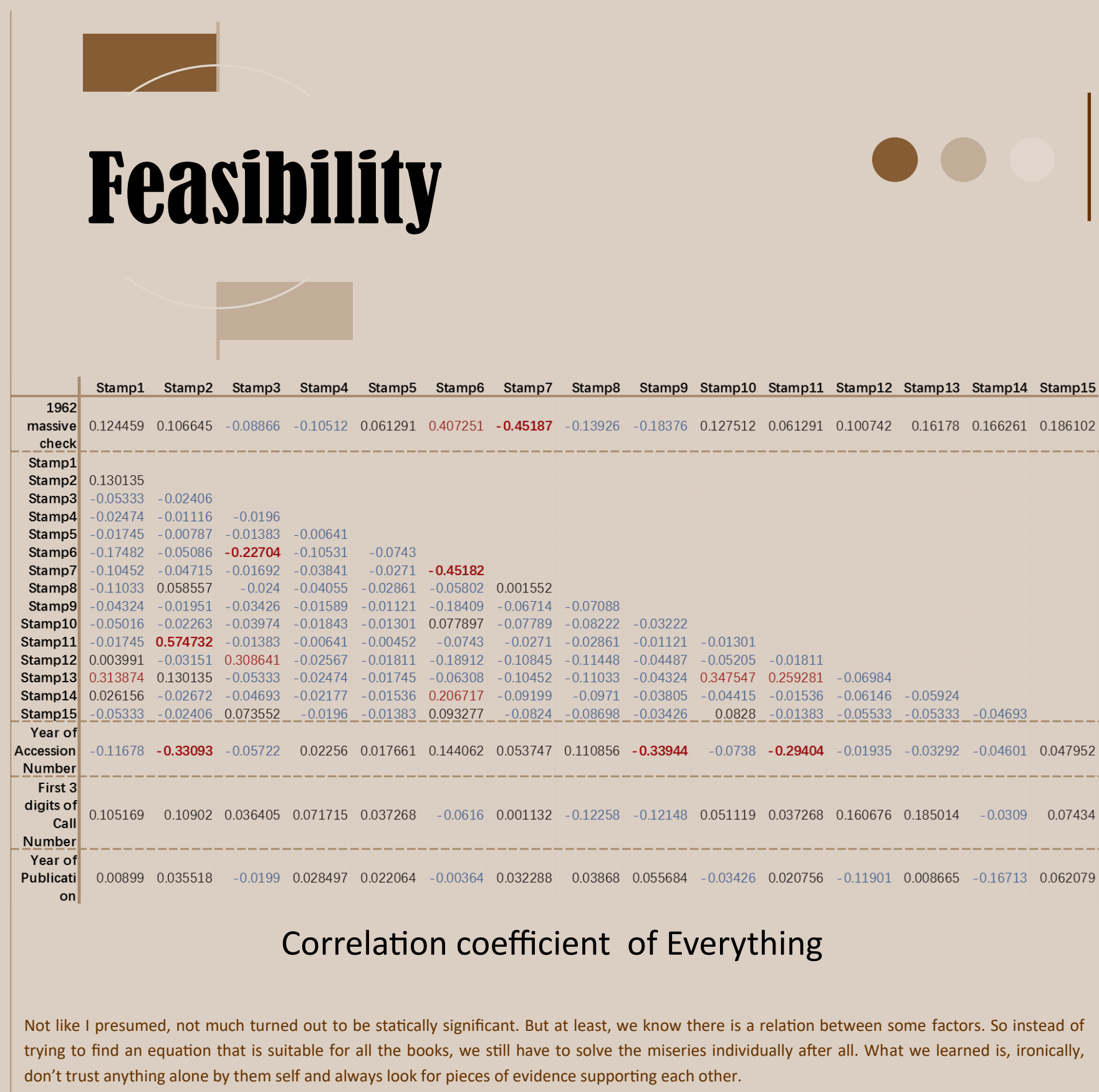
基于藏书印记信息的特藏信息挖掘初探：
以复旦大学图书馆为例

Research on Special Collection information Mining based on Collection Mark Information: Taking Fudan University Library as an Example

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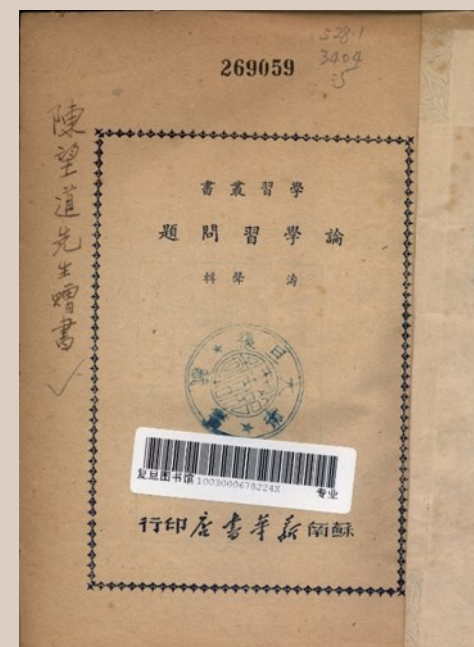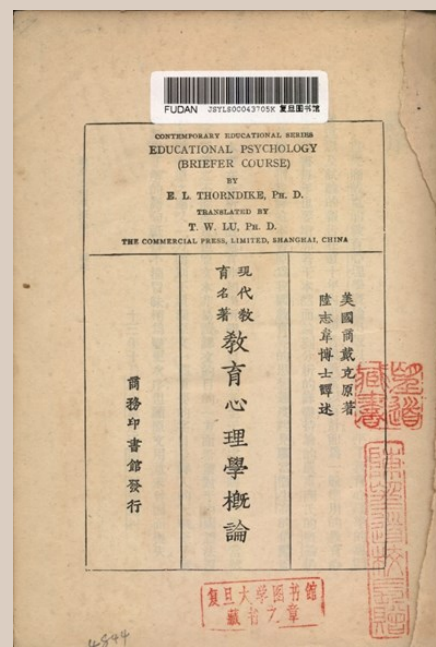E-mail: Li_Yanlin@fudan.edu.cn

During or around the Massive Adjustments of Chinese University Departments in 1952, about 200 thousand of books came with the related departments to Fudan University. It is difficult to describe the difference between ownership stamps of one organization from different periods. These stamps tend to have the same text information with similar designs. Whereas, these stamps are more valuable to the project then the personal ones -- the rates of the appearance of organization stamps are significantly higher, therefore, easier to gather enough data for analyzation.

Feasibility

	Stamp1	Stamp2	Stamp3	Stamp4	Stamp5	Stamp6	Stamp7	Stamp8	Stamp9	Stamp10	Stamp11	Stamp12	Stamp13	Stamp14	Stamp15
1962 massive check	0.124459	0.106645	-0.08866	-0.10512	0.061291	0.407251	-0.45187	-0.13926	-0.18376	0.127512	0.061291	0.100742	0.16178	0.166261	0.186102
Stamp1															
Stamp2	0.130135														
Stamp3	-0.05333	-0.02406													
Stamp4	-0.02474	-0.01116	-0.0196												
Stamp5	-0.01745	-0.00787	0.01383	-0.00641											
Stamp6	-0.11033	0.058557	-0.024	-0.04055	-0.02861	-0.05802	0.001552								
Stamp7	-0.10452	-0.04715	-0.01692	-0.03841	-0.0271	-0.45182									
Stamp8	-0.11033	0.058557	-0.024	-0.04055	-0.02861	-0.05802	0.001552								
Stamp9	-0.04324	-0.01951	-0.03426	-0.01589	-0.01121	-0.18409	-0.06714	-0.07008							
Stamp10	-0.05016	-0.02263	-0.03974	-0.01843	-0.01301	0.077897	-0.07789	-0.08222	-0.03222						
Stamp11	-0.01745	0.574732	-0.01383	-0.00641	-0.00452	-0.0743	-0.00271	-0.00261	-0.01121	-0.01301					
Stamp12	0.003991	-0.03151	0.308641	-0.02567	-0.01811	-0.18912	-0.10845	-0.11448	-0.04487	-0.05205	-0.01811				
Stamp13	0.313874	0.130135	-0.05333	-0.02474	-0.01745	-0.06308	-0.10452	-0.11033	-0.04324	0.347547	0.259281	-0.06984			
Stamp14	0.026156	-0.02672	-0.04693	-0.02177	-0.01536	0.206717	-0.09971	-0.03805	-0.04415	-0.01536	-0.06146	-0.05924			
Stamp15	-0.05333	-0.02406	0.073552	-0.0196	-0.01383	0.093277	-0.0824	-0.09698	-0.03426	0.0828	-0.01383	-0.05533	-0.05333	-0.04693	
Year of Accession Number	-0.11678	-0.33093	-0.05722	0.02256	0.017661	0.144062	0.057747	0.110856	-0.33944	-0.0738	-0.29404	-0.01935	-0.03292	-0.04601	0.047952
First 3 digits of Call Number	0.105169	0.10902	0.036405	0.071715	0.037268	-0.0616	0.001132	-0.12258	-0.12148	0.051119	0.037268	0.160676	0.185014	-0.0309	0.07434
Year of Publication	0.00899	0.035518	-0.0199	0.028497	0.022064	-0.00364	0.032288	0.03868	0.055684	-0.03426	0.020756	-0.11901	0.008665	-0.16713	0.062079

Correlation coefficient of Everything

Not like I presumed, not much turned out to be statically significant. But at least, we know there is a relation between some factors. So instead of trying to find an equation that is suitable for all the books, we still have to solve the miseries individually after all. What we learned is, ironically, don't trust anything alone by them self and always look for pieces of evidence supporting each other.

Sample Case

A great portion of our collection before 1953 came from donations. Several faculties donated their entire personal library through their lifetimes, such as CHEN Wangdao（陈望道） and SUN hanbing（孙寒冰）. We can tell the books belonged to them through their ownership stamps. However, since they generously gave so many times, we had no idea when was one particular book accessed. Now we have theories of time periods of accession by studying the difference between library stamps. We even found some unrecorded donations.

Accession: DEC 1977

Accession: 1940-1955

Database

Not built yet (due to the lacking of funding)

Stamp Database
（SQL）

Stamp ID （Key）
Picture
Annotation
Description
Recorded Stamp/ Collector/ Organization
Period of Existence
Analyzed Period of Usage

Special Collections Database
（EAD）

Book Barcode
Stamp ID
Other notes
Physical description
Signature
Date
……

System Control Number
Book Barcode
Title
Authority
Publisher
Publication
Date
……

OPAC
（MARC21/CNMARC）

Still

We use ALEPH to manage the entire library and ArchiveSpace to manage Special Collections at Fudan University. Since the two systems can both generate XML files (marcxml and EAD), therefore, only for analyzation purposes, we found it unnecessary to actually link the three databases (that, and way too expensive). The plan, for now, is to pull out data routinely (a very long cycle) or by request (MPLP, we are lacking as much metadata as funding).

医科馆藏章

捐赠人藏书章

院系调整其他院校馆藏章

复旦大学院系、机关、学生组织、附中等馆藏章

复旦大学图书馆馆藏章

馆藏印章

Stamp gallery in the Library Centennial Celebration exhibition.